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News Release

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Paul J. McNulty, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, announced the sentencing today of Jermaine Thorpe, age 22, of Washington, D.C., by the Honorable Leonie M. Brinkema, United States District Judge, to 18 months imprisonment on a federal charge of access device fraud for selling credit card numbers and identity information of military personnel, and possession with intent to distribute Marijuana.

Thorpe, who worked as a contract employee at the Pentagon as a clerk, obtained credit card numbers, names of the card holders and the card expiration dates from files stored within the Office of the Comptroller for the United States Air Force. The card holders were active duty military personnel who traveled on official government business and whose credit card numbers were on receipts stored within the Comptroller's office. He also obtained and distributed a list of names and social security numbers of individuals who work for the Air Force so that the information could be used to commit identity fraud.

Thorpe was arrested in August 2004 after he sold 80 credit card numbers in exchange for approximately 20 pounds of marijuana.

There is no reported monetary loss from Thorpe's efforts because the individual who received the credit card numbers and other personal information provided them to the Alexandria Police Department, which investigated the case along with the United States Secret Service and the Pentagon Force Protection Agency. Assistant United States Attorney Erik R. Barnett prosecuted the case for the government.

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